



Wayside Points Of View

Hard Luck

A NUMBER of people who were enjoying "fliers in Wall Street" came suddenly into an air pocket.—*Washington Star*.

Reason Enough

The Japanese Farmers' Association of California reports that the average profit on lands tilled by the Japanese is \$450 an acre. And yet some people wonder why California doesn't like the Japanese.—*Cleveland Plain-Dealer*.

Where Tact Is Needed

Female juries might be all right in some cases. But Heaven help a woman defendant if she is prettier and better dressed than any of the jurors.—*Arkansas Thomas Cat*.

"Come on an' let's get acquainted!"



—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Lets Him Out

Colonel House is so determined not to run for President that he wouldn't do it "even if both parties combined to offer him the nomination." Which, it must be admitted, probably lets him out.—*Kansas City Star*.

Yes, They'd Starve to Death

If the ignorant idealists had to subsist solely on bread of their own making, they would quit their foolishness in short order.—*Boston Transcript*.

Status Quo Ante Gone

But when a Democratic President congratulates a Republican on being elected Governor of Massachusetts—well, that cremates the last vestige of the status quo ante.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

Not Exactly a Cure

Cardinal Mercier fears unrest in Belgium because of lack of work. He might have observed in America that work is not a cure, but an aggravation.—*St. Paul Pioneer-Press*.

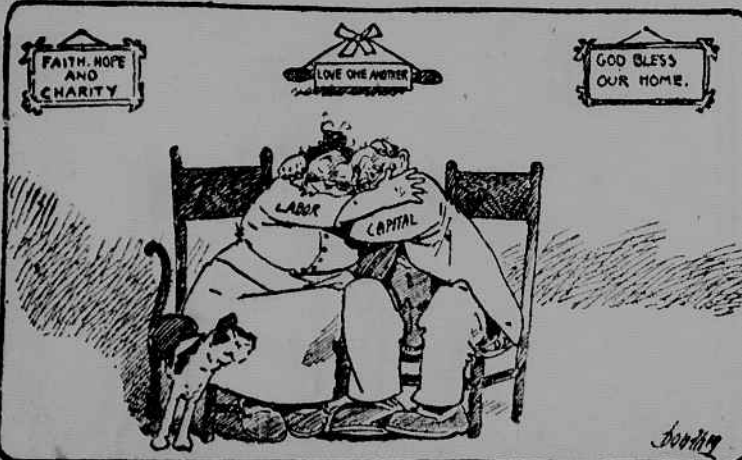
So?

Representative Voligt of Wisconsin, who was the only Congressman to vote against expelling Victor Berger, was born in Bremen and raised in Milwaukee. Huh!—*Toledo Bee*.

Not Much

Average pay of Baptist ministers is 15 cents an hour, says news item. That makes a long-winded sermon worth about 30 cents.—*Detroit Journal*.

"Eventually, why not now?"



—Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

Shall We Give Up Half of Maine?

SIR ANDREW M'PHAIL, a professor at McGill University, with a distinguished war record, has published an amazing theory in "The Montreal University Magazine," reprinted in this country by "The Boston Evening Transcript." Briefly, Sir Andrew holds that at present Canada is dependent on the United States for her existence, as her access to the sea is in or through the United States. Moreover, her outlet through New Brunswick, or even down the St. Lawrence, is restricted, as northern Maine extends to within thirty miles of that river. One of the principal routes between Montreal and the seaboard runs for 100 miles through Maine, while the others skirt the northern boundary.

The remedy he suggests is very simple: Article 19 of Section 1 of the Versailles Treaty provides that "The assembly (of the league of nations) may, from time to time, advise the reconsideration by members of the league of treaties which have become inapplicable and the consideration of international conditions whose continuance might endanger the peace of the world." Under this provision the Treaty of Paris of 1783 should be reconsidered and the United States prevailed upon to cede the whole of Maine north of a line drawn from Megantic, in Quebec, to Vanceboro, in New Brunswick. This country, he claims, is of little use to us, but vitally important for Canada.

Routes Insecure

Sir Andrew fears that Canada's bases of supplies and routes to the sea in this country "are not so secure as one would wish."

"Our access to the sea is governed by the Treaty of Washington, which was signed on May 8, 1871, and ratified in London on June 17 of the same year. By Article 29 it was agreed that for a term of years goods might be conveyed in transit through the ports of New York, Boston and Portland, and any other ports which might be specially designated by the President of the United States, without the payment of duties, but under such rules, regulations and conditions as might be from time to time prescribed." This 'term of years,' according to Article 33, was to begin when the Legislature of Prince Edward Island inter alia had given a certain 'assent,' and was to continue for a period of ten years, but could be terminated by two years' notice from either side. It is all very well for that small but powerful province to dominate the Confederation. It was too much at any time that the Legislature of Prince Edward Island should have the power to decide whether or not Canada was to have any access whatever to the sea. A search of the archives in Charlottetown would determine if this treaty ever was in force, but there is now at any rate an opinion in both countries that the provision has lapsed.

"At the present moment there is a nice illustration of the value to us of our sea bases in the United States. England requires wheat, and we have wheat which must be sold. All ports except Portland are closed to us by a simple device. The American railways are forbidden to carry Canadian grain or grain products without a permit from the General Operating Committee. These permits are sometimes granted for small quantities, which in practice are limited to occasional shipments of flour; but the delay and difficulty in securing these permits make the export of wheat impracticable.

Handicaps

"A single route by the St. Lawrence, even in the summer, is too precarious. The explosion in the elevators at Port Colborne brought into prominence the necessity of an exit by Buffalo. The Treaty of Washington may permit us to enter, and clear, without duty. It does not compel American railways to carry our goods. Upon this flimsy fabric our sea commerce is based. Canada is governed by geography through the relentless instrument of climate. The keeper of a lighthouse in the Newfoundland Labrador may continue for a time to clothe his women in flimsy fabrics from a Toronto department store. When the supply ship fails, he and his family will revert to the practices of the people among whom he lives, or they will perish from cold



Yes, Bolshevism has a large and enthusiastic following in this country.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*



The Ventriloquist.—*Arkansas Gazette*

and hunger. No city in Canada could endure for a month if its coal supply from the United States were cut off. This supply is not automatic. It is subject to embargo. A nation's first duty is to itself. Ambitious young Nationalists would do well to reflect upon these things, else they may find themselves with a nation without a people.

"Two courses are open. We may content ourselves with such sea bases as we have and direct our life accordingly. We may endeavor by persuasion, or by force, to secure sea bases from the United States. If the United States had not entered the war we might conclude that they were sunk in sloth and would not defend even their own possessions. At one stroke they dispelled that illusion. The truth is, Canada, apart from the maritime provinces, has no sea base on the Atlantic coast, unless the Hudson's Bay route is taken seriously; but now that the money is spent the opinion expressed upon these pages nine years ago is generally accepted as correct. That illusion also is at an end."

Compromise

Sir Andrew goes on to summarize the history of international relations between Canada and the United States, showing that compromise and mutual good will had been used to settle boundary disputes when each side had a valid claim. He describes the conditions attending the signing of peace between England and the United States at Paris, in 1782. This treaty, he contends, is of the type that has become "inapplicable," as Canada was deemed of little importance in 1783. "Here is a master chance for putting the league of nations to the test."

"The new boundary that suggests itself is an extension of the line of 46° north latitude, which forms the boundary further to the west; but this would involve a surrender of more territory than is actually necessary to afford a direct outlet to the sea. The natural line is that followed by the Canadian Pacific Railway between the two points, Megantic in Quebec and McAdam in New Brunswick. The area of Maine is 33,000 square miles, and the area north of the Canadian Pacific Railway is estimated at 8,000 square miles. But the land is thinly settled and unsuitable for cultivation, except along the Aroostook River.

Facts About Maine

"The population of Maine is 700,000, but seven-eighths of it lie below this line, and of this population 10 per cent is Canadian born; only one-third of the state is composed of land fit for cultivation, and of this only one-third, or one-ninth of the whole, is

improved; but only one-sixth of the improved land, or less than 2 per cent of the whole, is under crop other than hay and forage. The average size of the farms is 106 acres, and of these there are only 60,000 in the whole state.

"Two complementary methods suggest themselves:

"1. That the matter should be referred by the American government, after exhaustive investigation, to the experts of the area concerned with a recommendation that they should elect to constitute themselves a province of Canada with all the privileges, securities and guarantees of such a province. The nature of these privileges, securities and guarantees would be a fitting subject of public education by convincing the people that their liberties would be as well conserved under the proposed arrangement as at present.

"2. That those objecting to the transfer should have their property expropriated and equitably paid for out of Federal funds. This process is familiar to all governments which require private property for public use. "An exhaustive survey of the area involved, its population, properties and resources, would be necessary, but much of this information is easily available in the census returns. To enumerate them in detail would be indelicate; it would be like making an inventory of another man's property."

Would We?

Of course, there is the question of our willingness to cede this region, but Sir Andrew believes that, if the matter were laid before us in the proper way, we would see the justice of ceding a region presumably of little importance to us and won as a "spoils of war" in 1783.

"Will the Americans give back to us this area which they took from us by force at a time when we were fighting alone in Europe against a tyranny which was of much the same kind? The case is now laid before them unofficially, and by way of suggestion. If it were reinforced, it is highly probable that they would see the wisdom and honor of handing back to us what is of little value to them, but of life importance to us. It would be a proof of mutual forgiveness, a sign to the world of an alliance and of the new spirit which has begun to prevail in all relations between free peoples. If it were done quickly it would bring conviction to the old enemies that there is no further use in contending against a new world."

"The Boston Evening Transcript," commenting on the plan, finds that the loss of northern Maine would not be as negligible to us as Sir Andrew thinks:

"This line from Megantic in the

Let's finish him once for all!—*Memphis Commercial Appeal*



A clean sweep this time

—Chicago Daily News

Sir Andrew Macphail Casts Eyes on Maine

